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THE ❖CALIFORNIA❖MEDICAL❖JOURNAL❖

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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.—Write on one side of the paper only. Write plain When you wish to begin a paragraph at a given word, place before it in your MS the sign ¶. Words to be printed in *italics* should be underscored once, in SMALL CAPITALS twice, in LARGE CAPITALS three times.

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What's Better Than Physic?

BY C. N. MILLER, M. D. *

Mr. President. Ladies and Gentlemen:—In asking the question, which is the subject of my paper, of the California Eclectic Medical Society, it is to be hoped there will be no suspicion of a desire on the part of the reader to trifle with the dignity of this body by propounding a conundrum. On the contrary, the question is asked in a spirit of honest inquiry and of profound earnestness.

Various answers may be anticipated, differing from each other according to the light in which the question is viewed.

There are physicians who practice medicine for revenue only; physicians whose aims are as sordid as were those of

* Read before the State Eclectic Medical Society.

the country pedagogue, who kept school only because school kept him. To such, this question will be thought too preposterous to be given a serious consideration. To the druggist,

“About whose shelves

A beggarly account of empty boxes,

Green earthen pots, bladders and musty seeds,

Remnants of packthread, and old cakes of roses

Are thinly scattered to make up a show,”

the answer is easy, “What am I keeping store for?”

Macbeth sturdily rebuffed his physician with the exclamation, “Throw physic to the dogs, I’ll none of it!” That exclamation is heard often enough in these degenerate days to indicate that there is universal in the human consciousness the inbred belief, that physic is at best never anything but a choice of evils.

But to the conscientious physician (?), who would fain be excused from taking his own medicine, and to the intelligent layman, who sees that sickness is an unnatural condition, the question has a deep import. Its proper signification is, how can I live so as never to be ill?

It can hardly be claimed in behalf of any “ism” or “pathy” or “method” that in our present state of enlightenment it is possible, in every case to answer this question. But it may be asserted, that with the proper light it can be answered, and that the world is struggling toward that light. It may be said, further, that if we as a school would keep ahead of the times we must give the question due thought, and show by our achievements that Eclecticism is an essential factor in the world’s progress in this direction.

The day is coming when the doctor must go; and none

should hail with greater delight the dawning of that day than the physician himself.

Of the physician, who is so short-sighted as to believe that suffering and sorrow are legitimate sources of revenue, it may well be said, in paraphrase of Nestor in his address to Agamemnon:

“Cursed is the man; and void of law and right,
Unworthy property, unworthy light,
Unfit for public rule or private gain,
That wretch, that monster, who delights in pain:
Whose lust is plunder, and whose horrid joy,
To live by evils, that his kind destroy.”

It may be taken for granted that physicians of this stamp are few and far between, that the great majority of medical men and women would be glad to have education do its utmost to relieve the world of the necessity of their calling; that they would rejoice to exchange the tolling of funeral bells, now forever sounding in our ears, for songs of health, and the gladness that accompanies physical perfection and vigor.

But is it true that disease is not a design of nature, that health is man's birthright? Is it possible, accidents aside, for man to so order his habits, and control his surroundings, as to live without disease, and only die from old age? If health be subject to law, yes. If health be given or withheld by a so called Mysterious Providence, no.

That health is at least to some degree subject to law can be easily demonstrated. There is not a person in this room who cannot disturb the normal action of his vital organs, and thus lose his health, in five minutes, by swallowing two drams

of the tincture of lobelia. In other words the disturbance that results from the dose demonstrates that at least imbibing the tincture of lobelia is an infraction of the laws of health and is followed by disease.

If the lobelia be with-held, health remains; if it be swallowed, disease surely and always follows. Now, is the imbibing of lobelia the only way by which man can induce disease? Is the law, that man must abstain from lobelia or be sick, the only law of health to which he is subject? Or is that the only law of health man is capable of understanding or obeying?

Let us try again: suppose any person in this room should go to the wash-stand, and fill his shoes with water, and saturate his clothing to the knees, and then return to his seat, and remain in that condition throughout the day, and at night should saturate his bed with a bucket of water before retiring, and use but scanty covering; would not the pneumonia that would surely follow demonstrate that to subject one's self to wet feet and damp bedding is a violation of a law of health, and that this law is absolute and inflexible? Well, is the law of dry feet and a warm bed the only one by which health is in any way governed? Or is it not both logical and reasonable to suppose that disease at all times, and under all circumstances, is but a penalty for broken law?

Further, the very fact that man finds that he is able to modify and often times to cure disease, proves that health is subject to law; for if it be possible to restore a diseased person to health, it must be possible with proper knowledge to keep a person in health who is already well.

That health is man's birthright, is the only foundation up-

on which to build a true system of medical practice.

The drift of the world's progress is surely in this direction. If this Society had the courage and foresight equal to its opportunity, it would refuse to carry longer for our banner that old shirt sleeve, reddened by the injudicious use of the lancet, which we have beheld so long, and would show to the world that we are still in the lead by at least adopting a resolution somewhat like the following:

Resolved: "That it is the sense of this Society, that the logical deductions arising from man's success in curing disease, prove that health is subject to law, and that with proper habits and favorable surroundings, man may live from birth to the natural decay of his physical powers, or death from old age, in a continued state of health."

It is not to be expected that this Society, *will* see and improve its opportunity to be the first in the world to go on record with a resolution of this kind.

Medical organizations, like ecclesiastical bodies hold fast to that which is *old*. Neither of these institutions ever takes a step in advance until pushed onward by the people, and then they cry, like the ant to the elephant, "Whom are you shoving!"

However the world does move, and the people will soon compel us to get upon this foundation—squarely—and with both feet.

But you say it is always the most sickly ones who prate the most loudly of health, physician heal thyself!

Weil, I do not say that the laws of health are at present understood, or that in all cases satisfactory results can be obtained by those who are conscientious in their endeavors

to be well. But I do say that law, "Whose voice is the harmony of the universe and whose home is the bosom of God," has as perfect sway over man's physical condition as over any other department of God's providence. And I do say, further, that if we do not know what is better than physic, it is time we take steps to find out.

As for myself, if I come to my grave in any other way than like a shock of corn fully ripe for the harvest, then into the pale slab that marks my lonely resting place let there be deeply chiseled this epitaph, "He died from an unnatural cause, had he been wiser he might have lived."

I do not for a moment advocate the disuse of drugs in the treatment of disease. I do not in any sense of the term, pose as a reformer in the treatment of diseases. I make no objection to the profession giving tithes of mint and anise and cumin, or even of aconite and belladonna and podophyllum, this ought you to do. But not to leave undone the weightier matters of the law.

Physic is all right in its place. A celebrated humorist once said the same thing of whiskey, and then added, but Hell is the place for it.

No, I would not throw physic to the dogs—the dog is man's most faithful friend.

If the exigency arise, the drug must be forthcoming. If from necessity or ignorance we violate a law of health and become ill, medicines must be resorted to as restoratives.

Drugs can only be done away with by doing away with the necessity for their use. We should teach people how to keep well, rather than how to get well. Students go forth from our medical colleges crammed with the science of disease, but

totally ignorant of the science of health. The sick they can restore, but they do not pretend to control the state even of their own health, that is entirely a matter of chance.

Let us see what is being done by people outside the profession. Doctors are such busy folk, that they seldom find time to look beyond their own field of action.

Beginning with what is usually considered the lowest round in the social scale, we see that the land is filled with prize fighters; and that with ease they develop a high condition of health and physical perfection. Their methods may not be the best; the results they obtain may not be the most desirable for you and me, or for the world in general, but they demonstrate what can be done. They are, to-day, teaching the world far more of the wonderful power man has of controlling his own health, than is the entire medical profession.

Let us go to the top of the social scale and see what our brethren of the ministry are doing; and we will go to the top of the ministry, and take the testimony of the most illustrious clergyman of our day, the Rev. T. De Wit Talmage.

This gentleman presides over a church in Brooklyn, having a membership of five thousand. He preaches two sermons a week, and it means a world of labor to prepare a sermon that will satisfy that congregation; nearly every week he responds to a lecture call from some part of the East; he is a contributor to various magazines, notably and regularly to the Ladies' Home Journal. Is the editor of a weekly periodical, which it is claimed, "is the brightest religious newspaper in the world; a paper that has not a dull line in it, that sparkles with bright and beautiful things from caption

to finale, from center to circumference, and from New Year's day to New Year's eve." Besides this he has his family cares and pastoral duties. He is probably the hardest worked man in the country, but he has too much sense to allow himself to be over-worked.

In the last edition of the journal he says: "Since my birth I have never had a real day of sickness. I have never missed preaching a sermon because of any ailment except one, and then I was more mentally exhausted than in any way physically troubled. I attribute this constancy of good health to God's goodness and to the care which I have always taken of myself.

I have always had the theory, that should be a part of man's religion to look after his bodily health, so that, as far as I know, I am in better health and have more endurance now than at any other time in my life.

Now, at the close of my sixtieth year, my lungs and throat are in perfect order. I can deliver two sermons on Sunday, with all the accompanying reading of hymns and prayer offerings, and feel as fresh vocally at the close of the service as when I ascended the pulpit. And this is due simply to my steady adherence to nature's laws."

Now contrast this man's condition with that of our Ex-Secretary of State, the illustrious James G. Blaine. (The following paragraph is from a daily paper of the 11th inst.

Blaine's Condition.

"Propped up with pillows, pale and feeble, James G. Blaine received a few friends in his bedroom to-day. He spoke bravely about his health, but the visitors came away shaking their heads, and one of them said:

I do not see how they will ever get Blaine out to California for all he talks so confidently of going there, and anticipates so much benefit from the mild climate and pleasure from the trip. Poor Blaine; his hands shook as though he had palsy."

Both men are of the same age. One is in better condition physically than ever before, the other is a physical wreck. Talmage says he is familiar with every gymnasium in Brooklyn, has always kept himself in the condition of a well trained man, has found time from his youth to regularly practice running, and is to-day at sixty, a first-class sprinter.

Blaine's muscles and heart are in such a condition of fatty degeneration that he could not run a block without endangering his life. His kidneys are over-worked, his tissues are loaded with waste matter, his brain as a consequence cannot endure hard labor, and now at the time of life when his sun should be at its zenith, it is rapidly sinking below the horizon. His giant intellect and vast experience are a loss to his country.

Had Blaine been taught like Talmage that health was his privilege and duty, to-day instead of thinking about going to Southern California in search of a mild climate, he might be arranging his affairs for a four year's sojourn at the White House.

Talmage in his article goes on to state the methods he has adopted to bring about and maintain his splendid health. I do not care to discuss them nor other views. My object now is not to teach how to be well, but to call attention to the fact that we may *surely* be well if we know how. Let that fact become a positive living belief with the world, and the

ways and means for preserving health will soon be forthcoming.

Health and long life are possible to the average man and woman. It should be the physician's great privilege, not to say special business, to preach and exemplify that doctrine.

Medical students should not be graduated without ever having had a word of teaching as to the science of preserving their own health. There should be a chair of Health and Longevity in every medical college.

I object to the world's being compelled to go for a knowledge of the laws of health to such authority as Pompadour Jim, Billy Muldoon, T. L. McClung, Walter Camp or T. De Witt Talmage.

I say the world to-day, more loudly than ever before, is asking the question, "What is better than physic?" and it is a shame to our profession to compel the world to seek an answer from prize-fighters and preachers.

A Peculiar Case.

BY R. E. McDONALD, M. D., Los Angeles, Cal.

Rev. Mr. V., a Mexican by birth, was educated for the Roman Catholic Church, but afterwards embraced Protestantism and was ordained in the Episcopalian Church. He founded a Mission in the part of Mexico where he resided.

He was obliged to give up his preaching on account of a troublesome catarrh which in time affected his speech and also his hearing.

He was treated by a number of general practitioners about this time, but instead of improving he seemed to be getting worse. The catarrhal affection afterwards localized itself

in a growth in the right anterior nares on the ala about one inch and a half from the nasal orifice.

He then became somewhat concerned about it, and after three years of almost constant treatment, went to Berlin, where he was examined by several specialists with a view to having it removed as by this time it had assumed formidable proportions, and filled almost the entire right nasal cavity. The verdict of the examination was to the effect that it could not be taken out and he was given three years lease of life at the outside. The prognosis stated to him was that in the course of two or three years the growth would have invaded the brain. This occurred twelve years ago.

Somewhat discouraged he returned to America and went to Bellevue Hospital for treatment without success.

About this time a private consultation by fourteen prominent surgeons and specialists was held on his case with a confirmation of the former prognosis. In this consultation one of the physicians disagreed with the view taken by the others, but being a young man with possibly a paucity of practical experience, no attention was paid to him.

Mr. V., then returned home and lived for five years in daily expectation of coming to an untimely end as the growth became larger, harder and more impacted every year. About this time he obtained the appointment of Mexican Consul and went to San Diego, Cal., where he remained for two years, when his voice gave out so he was unable to speak above a whisper.

He went through the routine of being examined several times, but no prospect of betterment was held out to him. He was forced to give up his position owing partly to a politi-

cal change in Mexico, and for four years worked in odd places as journalist, etc. One year ago he came to Los Angeles by which time there was entire occlusion of the orifice of right anterior nares, and the growth was plainly visible in the pharynx, with adhesion to the posterior wall (of pharynx) where it bulged from above the soft palate.

He went to Dr. D., who examined him and treated him locally for some time, and told him he would operate on him but for some reason he failed to do so.

About four months ago he came to St. P's. Hospital, where I was attending some patients; not with any idea of bettering his condition but as a "resort dernier", I made an examination and found a hard dark substance filling the right nostril, and on examining the throat a similar condition was apparent, only that portion adherent to the wall of the pharynx was softer and more yielding.

The patient's face in the vicinity of the nose had a puffy congested appearance as though the mass were obstructing the venous circulation. Upon examining the left nostril, I discovered a small hard nodular growth starting at its external orifice on the septum but an exploration further in, failed to reveal any evidences of its extension either in the anterior or the posterior nares. This growth of course presented similar symptoms to that visible in the right nostril.

I watched the case carefully for about two weeks and found him physically in good health, appetite unusually good, and no evidences of cachexia. In fact nothing to lead one to suppose he was not entirely sound in body and in mind except the objective symptoms of the local lesion protruding from the nose. By way of experiment, more than anything else, I

dissected off the small nodular growth from the left septum, and after using a solution of bichloride freely I dusted the surface with a powder composed of equal parts of Aristol and boric acid. In about a week's time it gave such good promise of repair that I turned my attention to the other nostril. I finally decided on a consultation, and accordingly called in Dr. S——n.

He rather discouraged me when I spoke of undertaking such—as he expressed it—a “formidable operation.” I thought if I could only remove a portion of it, it would relieve the neighboring venous congestion.

I diagnosed the growth as now malignant, and a fibroma but thought it was recurrent; Dr. S. agreed with me so far.

The patient was not going to last very long in his present condition and I considered death would ultimately ensue from asphyxia. The antrum did not appear to be implicated; the tumor or tumors seemed to point, if I may be allowed to use such a term, towards the pharynx, so I decided that any relief, if only temporary, would be a God-send to him, and appointing a day, I called on him and, after using a 2 per cent. solution of cocaine freely, I attempted to make an incision into the protruding mass, but found it was too hard, which dampened the enthusiasm of both patient and myself. From consultation with the authorities on the subject of fibroma and my own experiences I thought a sharp bistuory and unlimited “physical moral suasion” would penetrate any such growth, but I found I was mistaken. The thought struck me, why not bore into it. So I borrowed a dental engine and a small trephine attachment. The latter was about the size of a number 7 of American scale catheter and assisted by

Dr. S—I proceeded to drill into the protruding mass.

When I had penetrated about two and a half inches my trephine exposed a ventricle just above the floor of the nasal cavity which I afterwards ascertained was between the anterior and posterior portions of the growth.

Upon injecting a solution of bichloride into this space a few drops went into his throat showing that posterior to this point the tumor was not adherent all around.

After using the same dressing on the remains of the nodule I had removed from the left septum, I gave instructions to the nurse to administer a hypodermic injection of morphia sulph., $\frac{1}{4}$ grain, at bedtime. I spoke encouragingly to Mr. V., in the usual loud tone of voice in which I generally addressed him on account of his deafness. He suddenly exclaimed: "why doctor I can hear alright;" and upon examining him closely I found such to be the case.

I was unable at that time or subsequently to account for this sudden return of hearing, because his principal deafness was in the *left* ear, while the trephine had penetrated the *right* nasal cavity. Also although the mass protruding into the throat was adherent to the wall of the pharynx, it was to the posterior wall and neither of the eustachian tubes were involved. By this time I had made up my mind that with the aid of the dental engine it was possible to extirpate the entire mass, I consulted various authorities on the subject and finally decided on another consultation.

I called in Dr. S—n, who up to this time had carefully watched the case with me and Drs. S—r, B—l and M—s who after making a thorough examination, and I had promulgated to them my ideas on the subject, decided that the

operation was not only justifiable but feasible. I explained to Mr. V., the gravity of the operation and he consented to undergo it.

Appointing a day and accompanied by the above mentioned physicians, after administering ether, I enlarged the orifice of the nose by an incision commencing in right nostril beside and parallel to the septum and extending upwards to the nasal bone, when I introduced my finger, and using it as a guide, I grasped hold of the mass with a pair of vulsellum forceps and tore a portion of it from its attachment to the middle turbinated bone removing a small piece of the latter in so doing.

I found the middle turbinated bone to be so imbedded in the tumor that there was no use in attempting to operate any further unless I removed the greater portion of this bone and by the removal of it, it would also facilitate matters when I came to remove the posterior portion of the growth.

Now with the engine and chisel, I cut out the anterior two-thirds of this bone in pieces and upon a careful exploration, I was able to locate the attachments and adhesions of the tumor further in.

I found it was adherent to the superior wall of the entire nasal cavity from here back and also to the lateral walls, but, without exception (about two and a half or three inches from the orifice of the nostril) not at all to the floor. Exploring with my fingers as a guide and using my nail freely and with the chisel and the engine and unlimited perseverance in the course of about three hours, I succeeded in removing the entire mass except a small portion protruding into and adherent to the pharynx which however I loosened

from its palative attachments in such a way as to be easily removed subsequently with vulsellum forceps, per orum. I was forced to desist on account of the excessive loss of blood and the thready condition of the pulse. I plugged the nasal cavity with antiseptic gauze and controlled the hemorrhage except for a little persistent seepage which however was not sufficient to do any harm.

The patient was put to bed and in the course of a couple of hours revived and took some nourishment and did well.

He complained a good deal of pain in the base of the brain and soreness in his throat, his appetite was good, mental faculties unimpaired, and he was very cheerful over the success of the operation.

In a couple of days I removed the tampons and although there was a great deal of sloughing, pain, swelling and soreness, nothing else unforeseen occurred.

I only put four stitches in the external incision I made in the nose, so there is a very little scar remaining.

At the present writing I see no evidence of its recurrence. Subsequently to operating I sent a specimen to Dr. Gere, of San Francisco, who examined it microscopically, and pronounced it as fibroma, and thought it was not recurrent.

Why am I a Student of Eclecticism?

BY G. W. HARVEY, Class of '94.

In the first place Eclecticism is older than Christianity for we find by a careful perusal of history that many of the most eminent physicians of Graeco-Roman times sought to combine the really valuable and good of the different schools of medicine and called themselves *Eclectics*.

Here was the true spirit of liberality and greatness seeking to break the chains of ethical medicine and advance the standard of practice for the good of mankind, thus early in the history of medicine; and the same spirit has been cropping up ever since to some extent. Even Hippocrates the father (so called) of medicine was more wide of mind than either of the orthodox schools of to-day, for he in that early age taught that "some diseases are best treated by similars, and others by contraries," thus advocating, and in reality practicing the very same two great theoretical laws of medicine that Galen and Hahnemann get sole credit for in our day.

In the second place Eclecticism is a cube and no matter which side you turn up you find it square and symmetrical. On one side you find Allopathy represented in the large dose of medicine but it meets the symptoms and does the work well.

On another side you find Homœopathy represented in the small decimal of trituration or dilution, and it, like the one before it, simply meets the symptoms and overcomes the wrong.

On another side we find Hydropathy coming to view in the steam bath, hot or cold pack, alkaline or acid sponge bath, mercury, sulphur or alcohol vapor baths, enema, emetic, or in some one or the other of the many modes of the water cure, and this simply to meet the indications.

On another side we find electropathy (if I may so term it) presenting and recognized as the only certain means of cure, where electricity in some one or more of its many forms is used with success.

On another side we find hygiene and change of abode, where the physicians recognizing and prescribing as the only means of cure, a change of climate and right living.

And last but not least we find the side that is peculiarly eclectic, specific diagnosis, medication and organopathy where a certain symptom is met by a certain drug and the wrong righted, or when a certain organ gone wrong is as certainly brought back to healthy action by one drug known to have specific action upon the organ or part diseased. With such an armamentarium as this at hand, the physician may prescribe any one or all of the foregoing for the patient and this together with a fair medium between all the extremes, make up ECLECTICISM.

In the third place Eclecticism is broad, liberal, progressive and was the first to honor woman with a position in the ranks of the medical profession. They have broken down the prejudice, until to-day there hardly stands an institution of medicine in the wide civilized world that debars honorable woman from this noble calling.

In the fourth place Eclectics have some good words for everyone, and recognize any and every physician who is a gentleman, no matter from what school a graduate. Their code of ethics is, "honor to whom honor is due," the Devil along with the rest.

In the fifth place I saw that the *regulars* were envious and jealous of the eclectics calling them irregulars, ignorant and unlearned and refusing to recognize or consult with them either as physicians or gentlemen. This was a very strong proof to me that the eclectics were the better of the two, for when one man or school reviles and slanders and tries to be-

little another man or school, they have said to the world in very plain language, "that the one reviled is better than themselves."

In the sixth place I recognized the fact that our grand-sires came to America and in the face of the whole world of kings, emperors, princes, pope, priests and prelates, and their opposition, founded the best government that the world has ever known, by discarding the old and faulty, and choosing the best and most perfect means of government: so I could see in eclecticism, if carried out to the fullest extent by its progressive American teachers and investigators, the best and most perfect school of medicine the world has ever seen.

Seventh and lastly I observed that not a few noble (?) specimens of the genus homo went through the *regular* school and got their diploma because it was POPULAR, and then went off straightway and practiced eclecticism because it was the BEST. So taking it all into consideration, I determined to study eclecticism and stick to my colors.

An Open Letter

FROM

CHARLES MARCHAND CHEMIST AND GRADUATE OF THE "ECOLE CENTRALE DES ARTS ET MANUFACTURES, DE PARIS," (FRANCE,)

TO

PROF. A. JACOBI, M. D., OF NEW YORK.

Published by the *Archives of Pediatrics*, January, 1893.

My attention has been called to an article read before the "American Pediatric Society," at Boston, May 4th, 1892, by Professor A. Jacobi, M. D., and published in the December number of *The Archives of Pediatrics*. This article is entitled,

"Note on Peroxide of Hydrogen," and purports to be a "warning."

The learned writer at the beginning enters into a diatribe regarding proprietary medicines of all kinds, and endeavors, by an extravagant list of diseases, (many of which have never been mentioned by me as being connected with the subject,) to convey the impression that, peroxide of hydrogen (medicinal) is a "nostrum," and that the manufacturer of this article is to be classed among "quacks and patent medicine vendors."

He then commiserates the "immense number of unsophisticated medical men all over the country for their relative inability" to successfully "cope with the misery surrounding them," and intimates that the "trash" written regarding peroxide of hydrogen (medicinal) is not published for his hearers, who, being writers and teachers, are above the common horde of medical practitioners; with this compliment to his hearers and most uncomplimentary reference to an "immense number" of his professional brethren, Dr. Jacobi proceeds to mention several cases of diphtheria, which having been apparently greatly relieved by the use of peroxide of hydrogen (medicinal), finally were cured under the use of lime water, as a spray and wash.

The inference drawn by the writer of the article in question is, that the peroxide was an "irritant" and had been of more harm than good.

It is not my province as a chemist to enter into a medical discussion with the learned doctor, but I would like to ask if, in his opinion, a case of diphtheria can be treated successfully with lime water only, and whether in the cases he cites

it is not possible that the peroxide treatment was an important element in the recovery of these patients. I would also inquire whether the intemperate and in some instances personal allusions to myself and the preparation which I manufacture, are in all respects the outcome of professional investigation, and not the result of a desire to advertise himself by discrediting a remedy of which the therapeutic value has been proved by thousands of physicians who, though they may be "unsophisticated" from Dr. Jacobi's standpoint are nevertheless known as eminent and honored professional men, all over the world.

The drift of this article is seemingly an attempt to prove that Marchand's peroxide of hydrogen (medicinal) is injurious.

In confutation of this, I append herewith, in as concise a manner as possible, the experience of a few prominent physicians whose statements may be taken as conclusive in the sense that they are learned and talented professional men; the equals if not the superiors of the writer who challenges their experience, after having undoubtedly read their opinions for every word I quote here has been published, and forms a prominent part of the medical literature of the day.

In confirmation of my sincere belief that the claims made by me of the harmless character of my medicinal peroxide of hydrogen are true; I am willing to submit myself to a thorough test upon my own throat by spraying it with a twenty-five per cent. solution of Marchand's peroxide of hydrogen (medicinal) instead of a five per cent. solution as alleged to have been used by the learned doctor, for the same continuous number of days mentioned by him; and if any ulceration

● appears, or if the repeated applications of the remedy "does give rise to actual diphtheria," as he states may be possible; then I am willing to acknowledge that he is right. This test may be made at any time with the utmost publicity.

I make this proposition in good faith from a scientific standpoint, and will expect Dr. Jacobi to make the test in the same spirit or acknowledge that he does not desire to do so.

OPINIONS OF CONTRIBUTORS TO MEDICAL LITERATURE.

SOME CLINICAL FEATURES OF DIPHTHERIA AND THE TREATMENT BY PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN.

In peroxide of hydrogen, however, will be found, if not a specific, at least the most efficient topical agent in destroying the contagious element and limiting the spread of its formation, and at the same time a remedy which may be employed in the most thorough manner without dread of producing any vicious constitutional effect.

GEO. B. HOPE, M. D., New York,

* * *

A child's nostrils, pharynx and mouth may be flooded every two or three hours, or oftener, from a proper spray apparatus with a two volume solution without force, and very little discomfort; and any solution which finds its way into the larynx or stomach is beneficial rather than harmful, as thus the effect of corrosive sublimate is obtained without its risks or dangers.

E. R. SQUIBB, M. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.

* * *

Peroxide of hydrogen H_2O_2 , in the strong 15 volume solution, is almost as harmless as water; and yet, according to

the testimony of Gifford, it kills anthrax spores in a few minutes.

ROBERT T. MORRIS, M. D., N. Y.

* * *

I believe that the practitioner will meet with very satisfactory results with the use of peroxide of hydrogen, for the following reasons:

1. This chemical seems to have no injurious effect upon animal cells.
2. It has a very energetic destructive action upon vegetable cells—microbes.

DR. PAUL GIBIER, Director of the Pasteur Institute, N. Y.

* * *

I can assure all who try peroxide of hydrogen as a local application in diphtheria, that they will be thoroughly well pleased with it.

G. F. ADAMS, M. D., Pulaski.

* * *

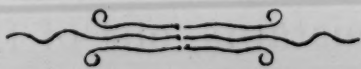
In all cases in which the peroxide was given a fair trial I have observed a direct healing effect upon the granulating tissues.

Hydrogen peroxide is a positive germicide and a possible stimulant to granulating tissues.

The diluted solution is perfectly harmless and can with safety be used in any quantity.

It possesses healing and cleansing properties as well as those germicidal in nature.

S. POTTS EAGLETON, M. D., Resident Physician of the Children's Hospital, Phil.



Bureau of Information.

The State Medical Society has opened a "Bureau of Information" regarding locations desirable for physicians and surgeons. Any one knowing of good locations, or desiring to sell locations, or wishing competent assistants, should communicate with the secretary.

The following locations have been sent in for publication:

MADISON—Dr. H. P. Popes, town and country practice; new two story house and eight lots; two horses, etc., consideration \$1500. Reason for selling—going East.

MONTEREY—No Eclectic located in the place. Chance for a good office over a bank. Dr. A. E. Colerick, of Pacific Grove, going East, will recommend his patients to an industrious, sober Eclectic physician.

SONOMA—Practice of about \$2,000 per annum. Dr. W. K. Vance desires a larger field. Consideration not known.

ELK GROVE—Dr. J. A. McKee. Drug Store and practice for sale. Reasonable terms. Reason for selling, poor health of family.

MAPLETON, KANSAS—Dr. Thomas Feemster; wishes to sell or exchange with parties living in California, good location. Terms upon application to the party.

All letters addressed to the secretary of the "Bureau of Information of Locations" will be answered promptly.

J. C. FARMER, M. D.
921 Larkin St.
San Francisco.

The employment of women as drug clerks will not pan out. A customer recently asked one: "Have you large, black nipples?" She fainted.—*Medical Herald*.

Advice to Surgeons.

Do not spit in your hands before operating, the saliva contains Microbes! After an operation of Laparotomy, do not forget to count your assistants, one of them might have remained in the abdomen.

EDITORIAL.

Peroxide of Hydrogen.

We have noticed in some recent literature, a criticism by Dr. Jacobi, of New York, on this new and valuable remedy. We feel that Dr. Jacobi did an injustice to Mr. Chas. Marchand, the manufacturer, in classing his peroxide of hydrogen with other quack nostrums. We also believe he has done the general profession an injustice, as his criticism will have a tendency to prevent the general practitioners availing themselves of one of the most powerful adjuvants in treating a class of diseases, in which ordinary remedies and means fail; or if they do give it a trial it will be in a prejudiced way, and, as it were, with fear and trembling.

Now our experience with Chas. Marchand's peroxide of hydrogen has been most satisfactory; in fact we should hardly know how to get along without it. In our hands it has proven all that is claimed for it.

For cleansing abscess cavities, washing old sore, and suppurating wounds, and for throat troubles, especially diphtheric affections, it fills a place that can not be filled by any other known remedy. Used in the form of a spray, it is also very efficacious in freeing the lungs of pneumonic exudation. We trust that the profession in general will not allow the criticism of one man, however high he may stand in the profession, to bias their minds against this useful remedy, till they have at least given it a fair trial, and we feel assured that it would take the adverse criticisms of many Jacobis, to cause a discontinuance of its use.

Dr. Jacobi either does not know a good thing when placed at his disposal, or else he is so hide-bound *ethically*, that he will not acknowledge the known merits of a remedy, even if he knew it unless it were given to the profession in the *regular* and *ethical* way: *i. e.*, about three to ten years after some enterprising individual or so-called irregular school, has discovered its properties and proven its uses, the so-called *REGULAR* school then adopts it when it becomes a 'seventh wonder.'

v.

Who Would Have Thought It?

Well! Well! Well! Who would have ever thought it? Our whilom bachelor professor, Dr. Gere, who was married just years ago, is the happy father of a pair of twin boys.

Well done thou good and faithful servant. Thou hast surely heeded one of the divine injunctions. But thy many friends should not be surprised as they all know that thou never doest things by halves.

P. S. Since writing the above we are pained to learn that Prof. Gere has had the sad misfortune to lose one of his babes by death, and we tender the doctor and Mrs. Gere our sympathy and feel sure all the readers of the journal will join us in doing so.

v.

One of Plummer's Statements.

To show to what degree of ridiculousness our Allopathic friend Plummer allowed himself to be led, is shown in the following clipping from the Sacramento Bee:

Senator Gesford, by skillful questioning, had Dr. Plummer admit if he was examining a candidate he would vote to license him without examination in therapeutics, materia medica, and theory and practice of medicine, provided he was up in the other six branches. The three mentioned are considered by the homœopathists as fully as important, if not more so than the others.

How any man, who claims to have the least knowledge of the qualification necessary to make a man a successful practitioner could make such a proposition, simply shows his ignorance or that he told a willful falsehood to carry a desired point. It is needless to say that our senators were not such fools as to be caught in such a poorly set trap.

v.

Regular Science.

Below we append a copy of a prescription written by a *professor* in one of the leading allopathic colleges on the coast. We did not see the original but are assured by the one who gave us the copy, that he got it from the druggist in whose store the original is filed, and that the copy is correct *verbatim et Literatim*. This learned professor belongs to the class of men who term eclectics and homœopaths QUACKS, and say they are unscientific. We admit that if he is able to tell what effect such a compound, as his prescription calls for, would have upon a patient, he is much more scientific than an ordinary so-called *irregular*.

The only scientific thing we can see about this prescription is, that it is written in the metric system, which makes the formula taken as a whole, the best illustration of *science* and *ignorance* going hand in hand that we have seen.

℞	Quinia Sulph.	2.00
	Strychnia Sulph.	0.02
	Extr. Hyoscyamus Fld.	
	“ Conii “ aa	1.50
	“ Ignat. Amar. “	
	“ Opii “ aa	1.00
	“ Acconite “	
	“ Cannabis Ind. “ aa	1.00
	“ Strammonium “	
	“ Belladonna “ aa	0.60
	Acid Arsenious	0.24
	Antypyrine	
	Antifebrine	
	Exalgine	
	Phenacetine aa	3.00
	Chloroanodyne	30.00
	Elixir Cascara Sag.	45.00
	Syr. Aurant.	15.00
	Elixir Aurant. ad.	120.00

M et Sig. 3i every hour until relieved.

And here are two more which were also written by a so-called regular. These prescriptions we saw and can vouch for:

℞	Iodide Potassa	3 iii
	Quinia Sulph	3 iss
	Syr. Glyceriza	
	“ Prunis Virginiana	
	“ Senaga	
	“ Bal. Toulou	
		aa 3 i

M Sig. A teaspoonful every 4 hours, well shaken

Dr. _____

Cut the Quinine with something.

℞	Syr Scilla	Co
	“ Senaga	
	“ Glyceriza	
	“ Prunis Virginiana	
	“ Bal Toulou	
	Tr Opii Camphorata	
	“ Sanguinaria	
	“ Cubebs	
	Spts Nitraus Ether	
		aa 3 ss
	Pulv Muriate Ammonia	
	“ Carb do	
	“ Chlorate Potassa	
		aa 3 i
	Antimory et Potessa	

grs v

M Sig. a teaspoonful every 3 hours well shaken.

Dr. _____

Still the Fight Goes On.

Our Allopathic friends are again at it. That is a few of the arrogant, dictatorial asses are. But we feel assured that the rank and file of their numbers are far above such contemptible farical business. The genteel portion of the allopathic fraternity, will always treat a respectable physician of any school, as one gentleman should treat another. The father of the infamous bill, now being fought over in our legislature, is one Plummer—had his name been *plumber* and he would have followed that business, the world would have been better off. When the legislature convened he hied himself away to our Capital City with his pet bill in his breast-pocket, chuckling in his sleeves at the way he was going to annihilate the Eclectics and Homœopaths, whom he, in his graciousness, termed quacks. But when this great mogul, this great philanthropist who is so solicitous for the welfare of the dear people, got before the Senate Judiciary Committee to which his bill had been referred, his statements were so palpably false, and his animosity so manifest, and he evinced such a spirit of arrogance, bigotry and jack-assness, that he became the laughing-stock of the Committee, the spectators and the so-called quacks, (Eclectics and Homœopaths); and when our Professor Hamilton got up before the committee to answer the false statements that had been made, and to represent the case according to the facts, he gave Plummer such a *dressing down*, that he will not forget it to his dying day; and from seeking to be a dictator, he looked like a rooster which had been struck in the back, when least expecting it, by another rooster twice as big. In fact Plummer made such a

d—fool of himself, and hung himself with his own rope so often that he was a dozen times dead in the eyes of the committee, before he got off the floor. The result is that at the present writing the eclectics and homœopaths have possession of the fort, and are recharging their guns, for the next onslaught.

We append below a couple of clippings from one of our leading daily papers, which will show the public feeling in the matter and the present status of affairs. When this bill and some others are settled we will report results, as our victory or defeat will be of vital interest to every eclectic and homœopath and other liberal, progressive physician in the whole United States. v.

Whatever the merits of the allopathic opposition to the proposed Board of Medical Examiners to consist of two members from each of the eclectic, homœopathic and allopathic schools, it is not strengthened by such arguments as that used by Dr. Plummer before the Senate Judiciary Committee. He had the assurance to say that if the eclectics and homœopaths were placed in control in medical matters they would before the next election wipe out five-sevenths of the constituency of the Legislature. Such wild and inconsiderate attacks on the abilities of members of reputable schools of medicine are ill-advised, unjust and unfounded, and when resorted to only serve to weaken the standing of those making them.

(*S. F. Daily Examiner, Feb. 16.*)

As a solution of the question relative to the composition of the State Board of Medical Examiners the Senate Judiciary Committee has decided to report in favor of a bill creating three distinct boards, one for each school of medicine. This is the best solution of the situation. Should one composite board be created, the already bitter feeling existing between the allopaths and the practitioners of the homœopathic and eclectic schools would in all probability be intensified and lead to wrangles among the members of the board that would not add to their serviceability.

(*S. F. Daily Examiner, Feb. 17.*)

Our Spring Term.

The Preliminary term of the California Medical College, opened Monday, Feb. 13th, with an unusually large class; and all have entered upon their work with a degree of earnestness that is highly commendable.

The prospect now is, that when the regular term begins, we will have the largest class in the history of the school.

The fight that is being made against us in this state, has proven a veritable *boomerang* to those who incited the war; and instead of injuring our school or driving away our students it will prove a boom (not *boomerang*) to us.

There is a general revulsion of feeling with the public in this matter, and the time is not far distant when medical intolerance and bigotry will not be tolerated; and class legislation in favor of the Allopaths will be a thing of the past.

We invite and will gladly accept any law that will put the graduates of the three recognized schools, on an equal footing and then trust to the "survival of the fittest." We are sure there would be fewer of our students who would be driven out of the profession than there would be of graduates of the Allopaths.

It is an equal footing and an equal contest that they fear: hence they are trying to hedge themselves about by unjust, class legislation. v.

Dr. Carrie Cook, one of our last year graduates, has opened a hospital at 187 Hyde St., this city, and as she will have the support of the Eclectic physicians in general, we bespeak for her success.

Any physician so desiring can take his patients there and



keep them under his own charge and feel assured that they will be properly cared for in every respect. Dr. Cook's father and mother are also physicians and will be associated with her in this enterprise.

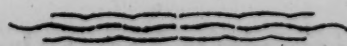
Dr. Cook is taking a step in the right direction and is filling a want that has long been felt by the Eclectics of San Francisco. We would urge that one and all give her a hearty support by taking their patients to her pleasant "home for invalids", and thereby help to build up an institution so much needed. Surgical cases will receive the best of attention.

v.

The California Medical College has added some new names to its corps of teachers, which now number eighteen. The addition of a chair of oral and dental surgery to the regular curriculum, is also under consideration. We do not wish to exaggerate nor praise the California Medical College because of our connection with it; but we are sure that students can not receive a better medical education in any institution in the United States.

Every teacher is a live, energetic and progressive man, and takes a personal interest in the thorough and rapid advancement of the classes, and pride in their attainments. The success of our graduates, whether located in the city, town or country, bear out the above statement, and it is to be hoped that every liberal physician on the Pacific Coast will appoint himself a committee of one to send students to the California Medical College.

v.



SELECTIONS .

THE GUIANAN PIAI.

The Indian tribes along the Amazon and Oronoco believe that all diseases proceed from the curse of some evil spirit who has shot his arrow into the sufferer. The duty of the piai-man, or Guianan doctor, is, therefore, first to scare away the spirit, and second to extract the arrow. His badge of office is a brightly painted gourd, containing three or four small pebbles and suspended from a stick ornamented with the wing cases of large beetles hung loosely about it. When this sacred rattle is shaken vigorously a rattling and rustling noise is produced, supposed to be very disquieting to the evil spirits. After the demons have been sufficiently frightened by the racket, the piai-man applies his mouth to the affected portion of the sufferer's anatomy and by suction draws out a small arrow head, a bit of bone, or a snake's fang, which is supposed to be the arrow shot by the spirit. Sometimes, the piai-man wears a short apron and head-dress made of parrot's feathers, and sometimes appears only in the dignity of his office.

To qualify as a piai-man the aspirant takes to the woods with several piai graduates and fasts for a week or ten days. After he is sufficiently exhausted, the neophyte is compelled to drink a quantity of tea brewed from tobacco leaves by the oldest professor of the art, the natural result of which is to throw him into a comatose state, during which his spirit is supposed to leave his body and receive the priestly commission from the Great Spirit. Upon recovery he is solemn-

ly presented with the sacred rattle and becomes a full-fledged graduate, entitled to practice the healing art according to his lights.

Like most savage tribes, the Guinans pay but scant attention to women in child-birth. But with them the customs observed in civilized nations are ludicrously reversed. The Guianan woman who is about to become a mother goes about her customary duties, eating what she pleases and paying but slight attention to the impending event, while the prospective father is the object of a most solicitous care. His diet is regulated, he is not allowed to work or join in hunting expeditions, and when the expected event occurs, while the mother calmly washes the new arrival and goes on with her work as usual, the father takes to his hammock and is nursed by the women of the tribe for two weeks, during which time he is fed with the daintiest foods and is not allowed to move. He is then supposed to be convalescent.

Our threadbare joke, "The mother and baby are all right and the father is as well as can be expected," would be a serious truism to a Guianan.—*Medicine Men and Manners.*

CONCENTRATED FOODS FOR BRAIN WORKERS AND THE VICTIMS OF DISEASES.

By I. N. Love, M. D., Professor of Clinical Medicine, Diseases of Children and Hygiene Marion-Sims College of Medicine, St. Louis.

Those acutely ill and those burdened with wasting diseases need constantly the benefits of nutrition in a concentrated form and in a shape to be promptly assimilated. Not only are such nutrients of value in disease but also in the up-building and in the strengthening of those who draw heavily upon

their brawn as well as those who make drafts upon their brain.

Certainly the hand-maid of the medical profession in these latter years has been the guild of pharmacy, particularly that branch of it which has developed the possibilities of food. We are all familiar with the fact that the stereotyped, the traditional beef tea of the sick room, was a sham and a fraud; chiefly hot water and a small modicum of mineral salts. Only this and nothing more.

Able chemists backed up by the strong arm of capital have developed the fact that there can be presented to the profession, beef teas which are not a delusion and a snare; which when presented to those hungering are not like the stone which is given to the one asking for bread, but the reverse. For full twelve months we have been impressed with the thoughts that appear in this short article.

A part of this time we were ourselves a victim of overwork and the beastly germ of la grippe. For weeks and in fact for months; a part of the time in bed, much of the time on our feet and on the road doing work which had to be done, we were sustained, strengthened, nourished and given life-force by a product which hails from the breezy west, the Rex brand extract of beef from the Cudahy laboratories, South Omaha, Nebraska. We found it to contain 54 per cent of nutritious albumen and fifteen per cent of bone forming phosphates and furthermore that it will keep for an indefinite length of time no matter what the conditions surrounding it. Dissolved in hot water it produces at once a beautiful, transparent, artistic, amber colored beef tea or bouillon; in fact it surpasses any bouillon of which we have

partaken anywhere, not excepting that presented by the chefs in the best clubs of the country. The market is filled with various spurious or low grade extracts with rank odor, strong smoky flavor, with coarse granulations, possessed of excessive saltiness and a disposition to deteriorate under unfavorable conditions. We have uniformly found the "Rex" brand of beef extract to be free from all these defects. If one be in doubt with reference to uniformity, the clearness and the absence of coarse granulations, they need only to take a small portion and spread it upon a white paper with a spatula when they will have emphasized the fact of its purity.

It is a food, wholesome, grateful, delicious and refreshing and a happy combination of stimulation and nutrition. One advantage that it possesses is that we do not need to administer a large quantity at a time. A quarter of a teaspoonful mixed with a teacupful of boiling hot water will provide a palatable beef tea, and by the addition of a little salt, pepper or celery, we produce gratifying results. The soup, stew or gravy in the home will be materially improved by the addition of a small amount of the "Rex" brand of beef extract.

CASES OF APPENDICITIS REQUIRING OPERATION.

Dr. G. Barling, on the ground of an analysis of sixty-eight cases of appendicitis, concludes that an operation is required in the following three classes of cases:

1. Those in which pus can be diagnosticated with something like certainty.
2. Those in which, from the acuteness of the symptoms, perforation or gangrene of appendix may be regarded as imminent, if it has not already happened.

3. Those in which prolonged rest, blistering, etc., fail to prevent relapse.

In Class 1, the indications for operation may be: The presence of distinct tumor increasing in size despite treatment; increasing tenderness, hectic temperature, and perhaps redness, cedema or fluctuation. The operation consists in cutting down on the most prominent part of the tumor, evacuating the pus, and removing the appendix, if it presents itself easily and is found to be diseased. The abscess sac will generally be found adherent to the abdominal wall, so that the general cavity of the peritoneum is not opened. The cavity must be drained.

In Class 2, the attack generally has a very acute commencement, pain is very marked, and tenderness of McBurney's point extreme. Tumor there may be none to be felt, unless the patient is examined under an anæsthetic. The temperature will generally be elevated to 102° or 103° , and the pulse will be unduly quick in proportion to the temperature; at the same time the patient looks very ill. These acute symptoms continuing, and especially if there is even a beginning of distention, operation should be resorted to,—and this is especially true of children. An incision should be made in the right semilunar line, pus evacuated if it is found, the appendix removed if this can be done without any great disturbance of parts. The greatest care should be taken to prevent fouling the general cavity of the peritoneum. The wound should be closed, except for the space occupied by a glass drainage tube.

In Class 3, if prolonged rest in bed with blisters and salines fails to give relief, especially if there be a succession of

relapses, operation is called for on much the lines laid down in Class 2, but operation should not be resorted to until rest has had a thorough chance of effecting a cure.—*The Med Press*, Sept. 28, 1892.

ARE HYPODERMIC INJECTIONS OF MORPHINE LAWFUL?

A suit has just been begun, in South Dakota, by a Mrs. C. M. Sweitzer against a doctor living in Aberdeen. She alleges that the doctor repeatedly "pumped morphine into her husband so that he became a morphine fiend," and being intellectually and morally a wreck, was unable to provide for her support. The medico-legal questions involved in this suit are of considerable interest, as what is called the morphine habit is becoming one of the notable medical signs of the day. The facility with which hypodermic injections can be made, and their possible results when long continued, make it the duty of the physician to be careful when he adopts such a line of treatment.

Some of the newspapers are clamoring for a law placing some restrictions upon the administration of morphine, alleging that it is as dangerous as the sale of liquors to minors. Whether the consent of parents or husbands is necessary to make a hypodermic injection of morphine proper, is a question which has never been before a court for decision, but if heavy doses were given and continued for a considerable length of time, without informing the patient of the character of the treatment, and evil results followed, it is very probable that the physician would be liable in damages.—*Buffalo Journal*.

DIPLOMA-ED DANGERS.

Diploma-ed Dangers forms the subject of an editorial in Daniel's Texas Medical Journal. After some preliminary remarks our contemporary goes to to say: The foregoing reflections have been suggested by reading in the Kansas City Medical Index the report of a case where a child *seven months old* had received a scald on the arm and cheek, for which, "Dr. C." (who reports the case!) prescribed "Carbolic acid, camphor gum, aa one drachm; to castor oil one ounce;" and gave one-eighth *grain of morphine*, and left another one-eighth grain, "to be given in two or three hours if necessary." The reporter says: "*The child dropped to sleep and died in about three hours without waking,*" yet as coolly attributes the death to the carbolic acid, and discusses the probability of its having been absorbed!

We do not know which to admire most, the doctor's child-like, ignorant simplicity, or his assumption that everybody else is as big a fool as he; for it is evident that *he* never suspected the over-dose of morphine had done its work, or he would not have given it away. It is a remarkable report.

This is not the worst part of the affair. The author—C—of the wonderful report alluded to by the Texas Medical Journal asserts that the mixture he put up is campho-phenique and that the latter is consequently poisonous. This is not only uttering a falsehood, but it is a piece of malice which we certainly would not expect the editor of the Index to countenance or foster in any manner. A letter of correction calling attention to this affair and addressed to the editor of the Index received scant notice, not being even published.—*St. Louis Medical Journal.*

RECENT OBSERVATIONS ON SULFONAL.

Sulfonal has been doing very satisfactory work in general practice, largely supplying the place of narcotic drugs in conditions in which the use of the latter is unadvisable. The usefulness of this remedy has called forth many expressions of opinions from all parts of the country. Among these we cite the following from Dr. J. H. Mackay, printed in the Medical and Surgical Record of May, 1892.

"Sulfonal has been introduced into my medicine case to stay. Not often will it be needed, but in a few cases, no other remedy can fill its place. My first experience with the remedy was in a case of grip. My patient was nervous, restless, had a hacking cough and headache and had not slept for upwards of thirty-six hours. At nine o'clock in the evening, as there was no indication of sleep and he was worn out, I gave twenty-five grains in a half cup of hot water. At eleven he fell into a dreamless, physiological sleep which continued without interruption for eleven hours. He awoke refreshed with mind clear, pulse normal and no headache or subsequent drowsiness, ate some breakfast, spent a comfortable day, and slept well on the following night without repeating the dose of Sulfonal. Other remedies of course were given for cough and fever. Another case was one of alcoholic insomnia. Patient was on an extended spree—one of many such—and was verging on delirium. For several days and nights, sleep was impossible. The stomach was irritable, and the pulse rapid. He had been there before and had learned the use of antidotes and hypnotics, but they only increased the irritability of the stomach and the excitability of the brain and heart. I gave twenty grains of Sulfonal and in two

hours afterwards, the vomiting ceased, the pulse slackened and the patient slept for several hours. The vomiting did not return. Before using Sulfonal, I had exhausted my resources to quiet."—*Charlotte Medical Journal*.

VAGINAL ENUCLEATION OF UTERINE MYOMATA.

Prof. H. Chrobak, in a monograph on this subject, reports forty-three cases operated upon by this method, with only one death. His conclusions are as follows:

1. Vaginal enucleation of uterine myomata is indicated in a certain series of cases; with this limitation it is far less dangerous than other operations for myoma.
2. This procedure is especially adapted in the early stages of cervical, submucous and also interstitial myomata, if the uterus is movable and can be easily drawn down.
3. To determine the seat of the tumor the uterus should be well dilated and the interior examined with the finger.
4. Contra-indications to the operation are the presence of multiple tumors, or subserous seat of the myomata, as well as diseases of the adnexa.
5. Other contra-indications are a long, hard cervix, incapable of dilatation, large size of the tumor, the presence of inflammations of the pelvic cellular tissue, peritoneum, etc.
6. Intra-uterine disintegration of the neoplasm should be carried out as completely as possible.
7. Excessively large myomata extending up to the umbilicus present disproportionate difficulties to enucleation.
8. In case of necrosis and suppuration of myomata vaginal

enucleation is especially indicated, so long as the disease is confined to the uterus alone.—*Prager Medicin. Wochenschr.*

HYPERTROPHY OF THE TONSILS.

Syrup of the iodide in combination with cod-liver oil; the tonsils painted once daily with one of the following:

R Tinct. ferri. chlor f ʒ i.
 Glycerinæ f ʒ ss.

M. et Sig.—Apply.

R Ammon. iodidi gr. x.-ʒ ss.
 Glycerinæ f ʒ i.

M. et Sig.—Apply every night with brush.

—Waring

R Liq. ferri perchlorid f ʒ ss-i.
 Glycerinæ f ʒ i.

M. et Sig.—Paint over tonsils once or twice daily.

—Mackenzie.

R Liq iodini comp f ʒ ij.
 Glycerinæ, qs. ad f ʒ i.

M. et Sig.—Paint once daily.

—Starr.

In marked hypertrophy the solid nitrate of silver point may be passed into the follicles of each gland and then applied over the whole mucous surface every other day. Should this fail, excision must be resorted to.—*Medical and Surgical Reporter.*

PLUMBI ACETAS IN HEMORRHAGE.

Dr. T. Newell in *The Physician and Surgeon*, says: I was summoned to attend Mrs. C., aged twenty-two, in her first confinement. Labor progressed normally, and in seven hours she was delivered of a healthy female child. After waiting a short time I removed the placenta. The uterus seemed contracted down firmly, and no flooding of any moment occurred. On coming into the room after a short absence I was alarmed at the exsanguined appearance of the patient; divining the cause, I immediately grasped the now relaxed uterus, whilst I introduced my right hand into the uterus, and by making both internal and external manipulation endeavored to excite contraction, the blood in the meantime flowing in a perfect torrent. Realizing that my patient would perish in a few minutes if I did not arrest the hemorrhage, I called for my medicine case, and taking out a teaspoonful of the crystallized acetate of lead I ordered it to be dissolved in water, and administered it to the patient at once, and at the same time had an assistant raise the foot of the bed. The effect of the lead was, I might almost say, magical; the flooding ceased at once, and in a very short time the uterus contracted and expelled my hand. I then applied the binder with a compress underneath, and after giving some nourishment and an opiate, waited a couple of hours and went home. The patient, under nourishment and an occasional opiate, made a rapid and safe recovery. In this case I feel quite confident had I trusted to ergot, with manipulation, cold, etc., that before contraction became established my patient would have sunk never to rally.

THERAPEUSIS OF PIPERAZINE.

Accepting the very clear and complete clinical researches of Biessenthal, Schweninger, Ebstein, Vogt, Gautrelot, Heubach, Bardet, and other well known physicians, general practitioners have made many interesting tests of Piperazine, and have arrived at some very satisfactory conclusions concerning its value. Its chief therapeutic indication is in the uric acid diathesis, or the dyscrasia, resulting from that condition. It is, unquestionably, the most energetic solvent of uric acid and uratic concretions which may be employed within the human organism without producing toxic effects. With uric acid, it forms a neutral, soluble combination, while at the same time, it dissolves the various albuminoids and their homologues. Prescribed in combination with Phenacetine, it has very marked influence upon the gouty condition, and promotes the absorption of undesirable exudates. The value of Piperazine, in both acute and chronic gout, appears to be very decided. Schweninger reports success in 92 per cent. of his cases, and states that he could get no such results with any other remedy. Biessenthal also administered Piperazine in gout, in renal colic, and in urinary hemorrhage with perfect success. He gave it in carbonated water, 1 to 500. The ordinary daily dose of Piperazine is 15 grains.

A great drawback to the employment of Piperazine has arisen from the fact that, while in many cases it must be continued for a certain length of time in order to obtain its best results, the cost of the medicament has been so high as to practically preclude its general use. Through the enterprise of the Farbenfabriken, vorm. Friedr. Bayer & Co., (whose laboratories are at Elberfeld,) a new process for the prepara-

tion of Piperazine has been discovered and by the use of that method, the cost of this valuable new remedy has been reduced to about one-half of its former price.

W. H. Schieffelin & Co., New York. are the agents for this well-known laboratory, whose products such as Aristol, Phenacetine, Trional, Sulphonal, Losophan, Europhen, and the later product, Salophen, are now employed frequently in general practice.

INSURANCE FOR DRUGGISTS AGAINST CLAIMS FOR PRESCRIPTION MISTAKES.

Our London correspondent sends us the following announcement from the Northern Accident Insurance Company, of London: "The directors of this company have made special arrangements to insure chemists and druggists against claims arising out of errors in preparing medicines, or by or through any act or omission on the part of qualified or unqualified assistants, or principals, including legal charges for defending any actions that might have to be contested. I feel sure that you will at once realize the necessity of this form of insurance, and, on hearing from you, I shall be very pleased to supply you with further information as to our rates of premium, etc., which are based according to the amount of liability you wish to cover."—*The Pacific Medical Journal*.

ANTISYPHILITIC TREATMENT; PROPER DURATION.

This is one of the most interesting and, as is well known most disputed questions of medical practice. The physician is often puzzled in making a proper choice, and in the end and after much hesitation, generally decides upon what in

his experience has been the mean duration of treatment. But how often do we see patients who, after having been under medical supervision for a length of time, abandon the doctor to treat themselves—believing to have a sufficient experience to permit them to do so, and thus destroy their constitution by a too-prolonged use of mercurials when the latter are no longer indispensable, yea, often even harmful!

In a communication to the Paris Societe de Therapeutique, Dr. Bontemps, of Saumuz, supported the doctrine of Prof. Fournier, who asserts that in no case can the duration of the antisyphilitic treatment be fixed at less than three or four years. As at the same time, the patients ought to observe in the medication certain alterations and periods of repose or dishabituatio. Dr. B. has arranged the following table, a convenient vade-mecum for the practitioner:

First year:

- 6 months of mercurial treatment.
- 3 months of potassium iodide.
- 3 months of repose.

Second year:

- 2 months of mercury.
- 5 months of iodide.
- 5 months of repose.

Third year:

- 2 months of mercury.
- 5 months of iodide.
- 5 months of repose and sulphur baths.

Fourth year:

- No mercury.
- Potassium iodide, with intervals of repose and sulphur baths.—*Merck's Bulletin*.

CALCIUM SULPHIDE IN TONSILITIS.

F. P. Norbury has been very pleased with the effects of small doses of calcium sulphide in acute parenchymatous inflammation of the tonsils. These cases, especially if the subject be strumous, very generally tend to rapid suppuration. He has found that small doses ($\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ grain) of the sulphide frequently repeated, are most valuable both in preventing this suppuration, and in hastening convalescence when the mischief is already advanced. Febrile symptoms and pain are greatly modified under its influence. In abscess of the mouth and throat Norbury prefers to apply a solution of hydrogen peroxide to which has been added a little oil of cassia, which he finds a thorough and most efficient antiseptic. *The British Medical Journal.*

The value of Losophan as a remedy in cutaneous disorders seems to depend chiefly upon its influence in the dermatomycoses. Saalfeld has lately described some very satisfactory results from the use of Losophan in herpes tonsurans, pityriasis versicolor, and diseases determined by certain parasitic influences. He also derived favorable effects from its employment in frurigo, chronic infiltrated eczema, sycosis vulgaris, acne vulgaris and rosacea. Losophan seems to be contra-indicated in some of the inflammatory dermatoses on account of its marked effects as a dermatic stimulant. It is used in 1 to 2 per cent. solutions of a mixture consisting of 75 per cent. of alcohol with 25 per cent. of water. An ointment is also employed containing 1 to 2 parts of Losophan in 98 or 99 parts of lanolin or vaselin. Chemically, Losophan is a triioderesol which results from the action of iodine upon m-oxytolnic acid in an alkaline carbonate or hydrate. It contains about 80 per cent. of iodine.—*Therap. Monats.*, Oct., 1892.

BOOK NOTES.

FISSURE OF THE ANUS AND FISTULA IN ANO, by Lewis H. Adler, Jr., M. D. Instructor in diseases of the Rectum, in the Philadelphia Polyclinic and College for Graduates in Medicine. Price in paper, 25 cents; cloth, 50 cents. George S. Davis, Publisher, Detroit, Mich.

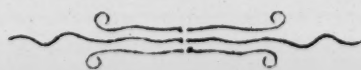
There is no organ of the body that is more neglected by both the laity and profession than the rectum.

A knowledge of the facts led the author to give a concise yet thorough account of two affections Fissure of the Anus and Fistula of Ano, in respect to their etiology, symptomatology, diagnosis and treatment. Hoping that it might excite a deep professional interest in rectal maladies if issued and is a volume of the Physicians Leisure Library Series, which by its moderate prices permits of a wide circulation.

We are in receipt of "How I became a Homœopath," by Wm. H. Holcombe, M. D., and for sale by Boericke & Tafel, Philadelphia. Price 15 cents.

It has been many a day since we have had the pleasure of reading anything which evinced the same spirit of liberality, honesty and logic. No one can read this little pamphlet, and doubt the sincerity of its writer, nor doubt that there is much in Homœopathy well worth an investigation, and also that there is much which has been tried and not found wanting. We would be glad if every liberal-minded physician, regardless of school, would send for this little book and carefully consider its contents and form therefrom unbiased conclusions.

V.



ASEPSIN SOAP.



MEDICINAL USES OF ASEPSIN SOAP.

FOR THE SKIN.—The antiseptic qualities of Asepsin and Borate of Sodium make this soap desirable for the preservation of the dermal tissues, and to remove and prevent cutaneous blemishes. It is valuable for roughness of the skin, acne, comedones, millium, blotches, excessive greasiness of skin, for softening and preventing roughness and chapping of the hands. It corrects abnormalities of the sebaceous glands, thereby regulating the lubrication of the skin, and is further useful to repair dermal tissues when they have been subjected to the deleterious action of chaps and cosmetic lotions.

CUTANEOUS DISEASES.—For the following skin affections it may be used freely with marked benefit: Acne vulgaris et rosacea, seborrhoea, eczematous eruption, herpes, psoriasis, prurigo, syphilitic eruptions, dermatitis, ulcerations, pruritic conditions, parasitic diseases, as scabies, for the relief of rhin poisoning, and for the removal of pediculi. A clean skin is necessary in any course of medication, and Asepsin Soap is a rational cleanser.

IN SURGERY.—The surgeon will find it valuable for cleansing the patient as well as the operator's hands, sponges and instruments. For its cleansing and antiseptic effects it may be employed in wounds of all kinds, chilblains, bed sores, ulceration, pustules, and for removing offensive and irritating discharges, and as a foot wash.

IN GYNÆCOLOGY.—It is useful in irritating and offensive discharges concomitant to diseases of females, giving rise to pruritic and inflammatory conditions. Leucorrhoea, simple vaginitis and vulvitis, ulcerations and pruritus vulvae, are conditions in which it is particularly indicated.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.—In the exanthemata it should be employed to hasten desquamation, thereby shortening the period of contagiousness and hastening convalescence.

At the time I received the Asepsin Soap, I was suffering intensely from pruritus ani and had already tried, with scarcely even temporary relief, all—or nearly all—the standard remedies for this well-known ailment. I was well-nigh crazed with the intolerable itching, pricking, sticking, gnawing, biting, burning pain. I had been nearly sleepless for several nights, and I was so busily engaged with my professional work all day long that it seemed to me that life was a burden, and I could get no rest at night. I frequently sprang from my bed, and ran wildly, crazily anywhere;—suicide would not be strange in anyone in such a condition.

Your Asepsin Soap I used without faith, but with astonishing and almost immediate relief and ease. I think I have never before recommended any special preparation, but nothing less than gratitude is due you for this benefit, and that gratitude I express most heartily now. I have delayed this letter many weeks, but I am still as thankful as ever, for my suffering was of a kind not to be forgotten.

PAUL T. BUTLER, M. D., Alamo, Michigan

ASEPSIN SOAP IS NOW READY FOR THE MARKET.

PRICE, \$1.40 PER DOZEN.

For toilet purposes, a cake of ordinary soap of this size is sold for 25 cents. In order to introduce it, on receipt of 40 cents in postage stamps, we will, for a time, send one-fourth dozen cakes by mail to any physician who has not previously purchased it. Send for a quarter dozen, and you will never employ or recommend any other soap, either for toilet or medicinal purposes. Ask your druggist to keep it in stock. Address

LLOYD BROTHERS, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

**"When dinner has oppressed one
I think it is the gloomiest hour
Which turns up out of the sad twenty-four."**

—Byron.

That the poet was a victim of dyspepsia, is plainly shown by the depth of feeling evidenced in the above quotation.

Oppression after dinner is caused by inactivity of the digestive function due to deficient peptic power, inviting fermentation of the food, and the consequent formation of noxious gases. These are absorbed into the circulation, affect the nerve centers, and are thereby responsible for "the gloomiest hour" to which the poet refers.

LACTOPEPTINE tends to prevent the occurrence of this "vicious circle" of circumstances by increasing the peptic activity of the gastric juice, thus digesting the food before it has any chance to undergo abnormal fermentation in the stomach. The digestive action is continued in the intestines, by virtue of the pancreatine which LACTOPEPTINE contains.

If the poet lived in these modern times, he would have no excuse for writing the misanthropic sentiment above quoted.

The New York Pharmacal Association,

YONKERS, N. Y.

**SAMPLES
ON APPLICATION.**